

Bromley Parish Church Monthly Alms:

The charity represented for the month of August is:

St Lukes Hospital for the Clergy

'Caring for those who care for others'

Clergy, nuns, monks and missionaries spend their lives offering comfort to others. They and their families are always there when they are needed and it is easy to forget that the clergy themselves are not immune to illness.

St Luke's was founded in 1892 as an acute surgical hospital, treating a large range of health problems. Today, as then, it is a way of saying thank you for the ministry of the Church. It offers prompt, free medical treatment to Church of England clergy, their families and dependent children. It provides consultations and post-operative care for people undergoing major operations and has a network of Psychiatrists round the country. Patients may be male or female; active or retired; stipendiary or non-stipendiary and they come from all over the world and include overseas missionaries, theological students and the Church Army.

St Luke's adopts a 'whole person' approach to healing. It understands the unique pressures facing the clergy and makes it possible for patients to take a well-earned break in a restful, prayerful atmosphere.

For many overseas Anglican clergy and missionaries there is no other option. They do not qualify for NHS attention and cannot afford private treatment. St Luke's may be their last chance to receive life-saving treatment.

This very worthy cause requires all the assistance it can muster and deserves the continuing support and endeavours on its behalf that St Peter and St Paul gives it.

Veronica Mountford

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